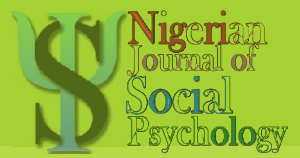


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## **Influence of Drug Abuse on the Academic Performance among Senior Secondary Students in Oshiri Development Centre, Onicha L.G.A, Ebonyi State**

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### ***Abstract***

*This study investigated the influence of drug abuse on the academic performance of senior secondary school students of Government secondary school Oshiri Development Centre Ebonyi state. The purpose of the study was to find out how drug abuse has influenced the academic performance of secondary school students. The study adopted a descriptive survey design in which three research questions were posed. The population of the study was 300 while the sample size of 120 was selected randomly out of the total population. Four point scale questionnaire was used as the instrument for data collection. The instrument was adequately validated with its reliability established using test retest. Data collected were analyzed using mean score. Base on the data collected and analyzed, the researcher made the following findings that drug abuse has a negative influence on secondary school students and that drug abuse among students causes students to be depressed with their academic activities, decreases students focuses in class, reduces the cognitive ability of the students and increases forgetfulness. The researcher also found out reasons why students engage in drug abuse such as academic problems, To become high and fit into the group, Drug habit of students is attributed with their parents drug habits, Students association with their peer group influences them to engage in drug abuse, Students are involved in drug abuse because they want to gain power. Finally, the researcher found out the most adequate measure for eradicating drug abuse is true the creation of awareness early in schools, Preventive program for high school student and counseling. Base on the findings, the researcher made the following recommendation: the Government should prevent the sales and cultivation of Indian Herbs and other deadly herbs that encourage drug abuse. They should also enforce its existing laws against drug abuse through its regulatory agencies. They should also embark on the Establishment of Counseling Centers for Drug Control.*

**Keyword:** *Academic Performance, Drug Abuse, Influence, Psychoactive Drugs*

## INTRODUCTION

Drug is referred to as a substance that could bring about a change in the biological function through its chemical actions (Chebukaka, 2017). This could thus be considered as chemical modifiers of the living tissues that could bring about psychological and behavioural changes (Nnachi, 2017). The use of drugs in itself does not constitute any danger, because drugs correctly administered have been a blessing to bring healing. While Lewinsohn (2018) defines a drug as any product other than food or water that affects the way people feel, think, see, and behave. It is a substance that due to its chemical nature affects physical, mental and emotional functioning. It can enter the body through chewing, inhaling, smoking, drinking, rubbing on the skin or injection. Drug abuse amongst the global youth population has become a serious problem affecting everyone. Drug abuse is a global health and social problem with condition and problems that vary locally. The World Health Organization defined drug abuse as a “state” of periodic or chronic intoxication, detrimental to the individual and to the society, produced by the repeated consumption of a drug (natural or synthetic) (WHO, 2019).

According to the American National Survey on Drug Use and Health (ANSDUH, 2018) an estimated 20 million Americans aged 12 or older has used an illegal drug in the past one month. This estimate represents 8% of the population aged 12 years or older. Additionally, the nonmedical use or abuse of prescription drugs including painkillers, sedatives and stimulants, is growing with an estimate of 48 million people aged 12 and older using prescription drugs for non-medical reasons. This represents approximately 20% of the US population. According to a report by the International Narcotics Control Board (2018), over 1,000 tons of marijuana is seized by US customs represent 94% of all marijuana seized around the world in 2020. Back in 2019, law enforcement officials estimated that the US black market was worth \$41 billion.

The International Drug Policy Consortium (IDPC) estimates that 45 tons of heroin was trafficked to Africa in 2010, out of which 34 tones were consumed on the continent. Drug Trafficking Organization exploits the low capacity of law enforcement at seaports and airports to use African countries as transit for illegal drugs from Pakistan and Gulf countries to Europe, North America and other parts of the world. However, Africa is no longer just a transit territory for illegal drugs but also a major production area with countries like South Africa, Lesotho, Morocco, and Uganda producing 25% of the marijuana produced globally (Nafula 2019).

Use of drugs for purposes other than medical reasons, thus affecting the individual in a negative way socially, cognitively or physically Kuria (2018). Social effects may be reflected in an individual’s enhanced tendency to engage in conflicts with friends, teachers, and school authorities. Cognitive effects relate to the individual’s lack of concentration on academic work and memory loss.

Frighteningly the average age of drug dependency in South Africa is 12 years old and dropping (Peter Jordan, 2018). Tanzania, is the second country after Kenya in East Africa with an increasing number of drug users mainly being school going teenagers. The Drug Control Commission (DCC) Report (2020) states that the actual number of drug addicts in general is estimated to be at between 150,000 and 500,000 nationwide. Statistics issued by Mirembe Hospital in Dodoma region that were incorporated in the DCC Report show that the number of young people who use drugs and attend clinics at the hospital increased from 290

in 2000 to 569 in 2005, equal to a 96.2 per cent increase. Kenya has reported high rates of substance use among students in public Secondary, (Odek-Ogunde et al., 2018) indicated rates as high as 84% for alcohol use and 54.7% for tobacco.

The rates would continue to rise among students in institutions of higher learning in the near future for instance, found alcohol use prevalence rates of up to 15% among secondary school students, while (Kwamanga et al., 2018) In a similar vein, the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency NDLEA (2021) added that recent statistics have revealed that 40 percent of Nigerian youth of age 18 to 35 years are deeply involved in the abuse of drugs. Atinuke aduloju, made this disclosure during the 7<sup>th</sup> annual constituency 1.lagos on the theme “increasing Wave of Drug Abuse, a threat to national building “.the undergraduate students found in the acts of drug abuse are often months academically and socially less developed as they are not respected and recognized to make reasonable contributions to any development. This is because drug abuse does not only downgrade the academic performance of students, but also affects the moral, physical and general buildup of the students (Dankano & Garba, 2020). Thus, youths who are perceived as the leaders of tomorrow and are being trained in various tertiary institutions in diverse field have veered to the act of abusing drugs. This act does not in any way contribute to the development of the students and as such the expected output of these students can greatly diminish their academic performances because of their persistence to drug abuse (Staff, 2012). It is against this background that the study sought to ascertain the effect of drug abuse on the academic performance of undergraduate students in Edo State. Drug abuse is responsible for lost wages, destruction of property in schools, soaring health care costs and broken families. It is a problem which affects us all as parents, children, teachers, government officials, taxpayers and workers.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), Substance abuse refers to the harmful or hazardous use of psychoactive substances, including alcohol and illicit drugs (WHO, 2017). It is now a major Public Health challenge all over the world. This habit not only affects health, education and occupational career, but it also incurs a huge financial and social burden on the society. Today, more Nigerian youths are becoming drug dependants, as Nigeria gradually transits from the status of a drug-consuming nation to that of a drug-producing one (Staff, 2019). Thus, more young people are getting involved in substance abuse in Nigeria. The danger of this behavior is so dangerous that not only the abusers of drugs that feel the effects. Nevertheless, the larger community also risks the assets of the future leader as youths are the future of any nation. Secondary students are individuals within the age range

### **Statement of Problem**

The prevalence of drugs abuse is on increase among students in secondary schools and campus, is affecting their performances in class, both in developed and developing country, Nigeria inclusive. There have been high rate of admission and readmission of clients with substance used disorders into psychiatric hospitals Enugu.

This persistent rise in the number of cases of substance abuse among adolescence has result in high numbers of cases of cultism, violent behaviour, rape, armed robber/bandit as well as mental disorder among Nigerians. This is disturbing because the prevalence is too high. The

issue of substance use disorder has caused a huge loss on the family and Nation's economy, as a million are being spent each year in the care of this youth and older adults(who, 2021)

Over the years, the abuse of drugs such as tobacco, sedatives, Marijuana (Indian hemp), cocoa leaves, alcohol, heroin, morphine, cocaine, inhalants (such as glue), amphetamines to mention but a few have drastically been on the increase. This lead to poor performance of students in this school and is giving me a lot of worries because when I was there as PTA teacher the academic performance of the students were encouraging unlike what is obtainable now in both of the two school, and this prompt me to take up this project topic to find out reasons for such increase of drugs abuse.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The study was carried out to achieve the following specific objectives:

1. To Identify the influence of drug abuse on the academic performance of senior secondary school students in Oshiri Development center
2. To determine the reasons why drugs are being months by senior secondary school students in Oshiri Development center.
3. To Find out strategies to eradicating the problems of drug among senior secondary school students in Oshiri Development center.

### **Research Questions**

The study will attempt to answer the following questions:

1. What are the influences of drug abuse on academic performance among senior secondary students in Oshiri Development Center, Ebonyi State?
2. What are the major reasons why secondary school student's engage in drug abuse?
3. What are the strategies that can be used to eradicate drug abuse among secondary school students in Oshiri Development Center?

### **Research Hypotheses**

The following hypotheses were tested in the course of this study:

1. Drug abuse will not significantly influence academic performance among senior secondary school students in Oshiri Development Center Ebonyi state.
2. There is no significant reason for drug abuse by senior secondary school students in Oshiri Development Center Ebonyi state.
3. There will be no significant strategies in eradicating of drug abuse among senior secondary school student students in Oshiri Development Center Ebonyi state.

### **Conceptual Review**

#### **Concept of Drug Abuse**

The world Health Organization (WHO) (2023), define drug abuse as "the harmful or hazardous use of psychoactive substances, including alcohol and illicit drugs". One of the key impacts of illicit drug use on society is the negative health consequences experienced by its members. Drug abuse according to Ananya(2023) use of certain chemicals for the purpose of creating pleasurable effects on the brain. Drug abuse is the use of drugs for purposes other

than medical reasons, thus affecting the individual in a negative way socially, cognitively or physically.

Paschall, (2021). Drug abuse is responsible for lost wages, destruction of property in schools, soaring health care costs and broken families. It is a problem which affects us all as parents, children, teachers, government officials, taxpayers and workers

The drugs commonly mentioned include, cannabis, sativa (marijuana or Indian hemp), cocaine, heroin, morphine, opium, tobacco and alcohol. The sale and consumption of these drugs has caused a lot of problems in Nigeria society and in international communities. This is the reason why most of the drugs are prohibited by law and there are national and international agencies established for the purpose of monitoring and controlling illegal drug trade. In 1980, the Federal Government established National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) to fight drug abuse and trafficking in the country. Since then, it has arrested many people involved in illicit drug activities and has seized various quantities of hard drugs.

(Louw, 2022). Concluded that drug abuse gradually leads to social, emotional and physical problems and new feelings of guilt, despair and helplessness. Thus, resulting to poor performance of students in their academics.

### **Common Drugs Mentioned by Secondary School Students in Nigeria**

Drugs that are commonly abused according to World Health Organization (WHO 2020) includes cannabis sativa, (marijuana or Indian hemp), cocaine, heroin, morphine, opium, tobacco, alcohol etc. the above listed drugs have caused a lot of harm to many people due to its consumption, sales and abuse. It has created also of harm to the Nigerian society and in the international environment.

**Marijuana** is the most commonly used illicit substance. This drug impairs short-term memory and learning, the ability to focus, and coordination. It also increases heart rate, can harm the lungs, and may increase the risk of psychosis in vulnerable people. In addition, recent research suggests that heavy marijuana use that starts in the teen years is associated with declines in IQ scores in adulthood.

Although not everyone responds to marijuana particularly the first time they try it, the desired effects are euphoria and a variety of other agreeable sensations such as increased sexual feelings and changes in temperature, sensations on the skin, distortions of time and space perception that are not pleasant and an enhancement of appetite. The total effect of marijuana experience lasts from three to five hours after which the user feels lightly drowsy and hungry (Fantino, 2022). Some negative effects of marijuana are, loss of memory, excessive bravery (Can lead to accident) loss of emotional control. There is no doubt that marijuana has become widely available in recent years, with about 8 states having legalized recreational use in some form. However, this does not undermine the effects of marijuana on young adults, whose brains are not fully developed. Most secondary school students are of the age 18 to 22. The brain does not stop fully maturing until about age 25, which means any mind-altering substance could interfere with the development process. This could ultimately lead to a substance use disorder and longer-term memory and learning issues.

The Cannabinal drug firmly has been well known since ancient months. The drugs are produced from many varieties of cannabis sativa. The leaves and the flowering tops of the female plant secrete an amber colour resin containing the chemical cannabine, cannabinol, tetrahydrocannabinol which is believed to be the active substance causing the mood modification and behavior changes in the user (Jones 2019).

## **Alcohol**

Alcohol, while not an illicit drug, is by far the most widely-used addictive substances on college campuses today. Over 40 percent of college students have been drunk in the last month. Over 32 percent drink heavily or “binge” drink, recently having had five or more drinks in a row. 11 percent of college students partake in extreme drinking, which involves 10 more in drinks in a row. These figures are much higher among full-time college students than other young adults in their age group.

The problem is, alcohol is especially detrimental to secondary school students. Not only does it put them at higher risks for drug addiction down the road, it also can negatively impact their academic performance. Alcohol is a factor in 40 percent of academic issues and 28 percent of college dropouts. The abuse of alcohol seems to make it addictive and the partakers are referred to as all who lies. It involves drinking to an extent which exceeds the norms of the society and which adversely affect economic functioning. In other words, the victim finds himself drinking when he intends not to drink or drinking more than planned. It is the belief of WHO that, alcohol through legal in many countries can be an even bigger threat like cannabis, cocaine and heroin. It is probably the most vicious drug of all (Shearer 2017).

Another form of drug that is commonly months by our undergraduate is called Heroin. According to (Kinch 2018), this is derived from the gummy substance extracted from the opium poppy and it is powdery. Opium is prepared by boiling the gum opium and successfully filtering out the impurities. Depending on the process, opium can be produced as a paste, powder, in granules or in solution. It is known by different names in the addiction world and has various slangs or names such as Horse, Junk, Smack, Stuff, button, black stuff etc. According to (Kinch 2018), Heroin is either sniffed or injected and nasal use is called sniffing, subcutaneous injection, skin popping and intravenous injection. After a minute or two of intravenous injection of Heroin, the following occurs which some describe as similar to orgasm except that the sensation seems to be centered in the abdomen rather than in the genital region. The sensation is described as intensely pleasurable following. It is, the user feels fixed or gratified with no longer pain or sexual urges. Users of heroin easily become psychologically and physically dependent on the drug. Heroin suppresses hunger; most users therefore suffer from malnutrition. Women who take heroin have the additional burden of possible complications and medical problems during child birth. Again, women who are addicted to heroin often give birth to children who are smaller than average, have serious infections and high mortality rates. Some of the children are born addicted and develop withdrawal symptoms shortly after birth.

**Cocaine:** Cocaine is a powerfully addictive stimulant drug made from the leaves of the coca plant native to South America. Although health care providers can use it for valid medical purposes, such as local anesthesia for some surgeries, cocaine is an illegal drug. Drug taking

at close intervals according to (Weisman 2022) causes hallucinations, confusions, loss of coordination, tremors and convulsive movement. Apart from that, an overdose can cause delirium, increase reflexes, violent and manic behavior, convulsions and death. Other effects include lung and heart damage, malnutrition and paranoia.

### **Reasons for Drug Abuse**

**(i) Social Structural Influence:** the anxiety of life is so much that people at some months try to find relieve from such harshness. When certain things happen to someone, that is considered very sad and dis-heartening the person started thinking of the best way to become happy once more, hence the use of hard drugs may come in. This later on turns to a habit, hence drug abuse. The particular factor is associated with relentless harshness of life. In this case, life itself is one big hell of hand ball to kick. Academic frustration, rivalry, poverty, family problem, inherent physical deformities, widening gap between the rich and the poor make life one long stretch of mental future. Hence, to summon up courage to face such situations and the smoking, drinking, drug taking of all sorts on the firm conviction that these drugs provide euphoria release, great spur and a monetary escape from reality because of this, taking drugs becomes a habit to face life

**(ii) The Need to Acquire Wealth Easily:** Another reason often cored for students indulgence in drug abuse is that drug abuse/trafficking is a quick and easy way to make money. Trafficking of drugs has become a multi millionaire business.

**(iii) Social/ Mass Media:** In reality, youths and students who watch a lot of television programs or engage in social media like face book, whatsapp, where unscrutinize video may be display can learn to rely on stereotypes of the various groups presented by the media. These children then transfer what they have learned from television to real life situations. The continuity of a child to watch, listen and observe the use and abuse of drug on the social or mass media can propagate them into practicing such.

**(iv) The Quest to Have Fun or Feel High: The Need to Feel High:** from my critical observation, student engage in drug because they believe that drug can make their reasoning to be high. They see that taking drug can make them to think fast and accurately. But they forget that continuity in taking drug to think fast will lead them to be addicted to it. Students in Nigeria feel happier forget or to remember, to be accepted or be sociable somemonths to escape from burden or just to satisfy curiosity. However, in the long run, people who abuse drugs in the hope of solving one problem or the other run the risk of getting trapped in a spiral of increasing drug use that created new problems and finally leads to drugs dependence which worsens already worse situation

**(v) Peer Group Influence:** Moving out of family; the peer group is the next factor that changes the life of a child either into positive or negative. Parents and peer group seem to extent almost equal importance by the time children are well grown up into adolescence. Thus, the peer group provides the developing child with a broad range of behaviors and cultural and sub-cultural values meanwhile a peer group is a group composes of individual who are equals, and they imagine that drugs are keys to enjoying life more fully. An individual in group which favors preponderance also are likely to have access to supplies, there is a high probability that individual will of definitions that favor the illegal or deviant behavior. Sine such groups experiment with drugs and ultimately become a drug abuser.



There being integrated into a group in which drug use is approved is one of the strongest factors leading youths into illegal drugs

### **Influence of drug Abuse on Students**

Drug abuse has become a serious problem that has envelope our secondary school students. It seems to have become a prominent social problem in Nigeria. In terms of health, (Nwaiwu 2021), drug abuse leads to serious health hazards for drug addicts. Drug abuse has adverse effects on the brain, kidney, liver, pancreases, heart and lung, thereby making them vulnerable to disease (Nwaiwu 2021). It also leads to other physical complications such as hepatitis, hepatic failure, tuberculosis in relation to alcohol abuse, infection and emaciation (Adedeji, 2019).

Again, drug abuse may result to serious psychiatric implications; these include confusion, restlessness and somemonths serious abnormal behavior or outright madness.

Apart from the general health problems caused by drug abuse, it also has much influence specifically to the student academic performance and activities. Drug abuse brings about lack of motivation to the student. This is because, the ideas of reading and studying is no more in them. What rings in their memory is all about how to get high up with drug.

It is also brings about decreased focus and increases forgetfulness. Research have proven that When a student is been indulge in drug abuse, the part of the brain that help in retaining what is learnt start to get weak thereby decreasing the spirit of focus in the student and making the person to forget easily.

Another influence of drug abuse is disobedient to teachers, cause student to get high and when this happens, they feel that they have authority of their own and they can easily challenge their teachers or even have the mind of molesting the female teachers sexually.

Drug abuse influences student to disobey the school rule, cause them to have low interest in school work, sneaking out of the school and heading for party where they can get high. It also pushes them to become truants as they have low interest in school work. More precisely, it also make student to have excessive sleep even during teaching hours. The highness caused by drug abuse can also push student into destroying school properties.

### **Solution to the Problem of Drug Abuse among Students**

School authorities should advise the students to refrain from indulging in drug abuse. They should also include sanctions in the school rule such as expulsion or suspension for anybody that is been cut in such act. National Drug Law Enforcement Agency should organize its workshop and seminars on drug free education in various secondary schools and institution of higher learning in the country. The mass media should play a key role in highlighting the evil effects of drug abuse. The curriculum for drug education should be developed and made to be taught at all level of the educational system. Drug addicts should be produced with necessary counseling services and socially rehabilitation to enable them quit the ugly habit and relies into normal life

## **Theoretical Framework**

Differential Association theory is a criminology theory that looks at the acts of the criminal as learned behaviors. Edwin H Sutherland is credited with the development of the Differential Association theory in 1939 and revised in 1947, behavior is not to be explained away by deeming the criminal 'simple.' As do most social learning theories, Differential Association theory, believes that the behaviors of an individual are influenced and shaped by other individuals they associate with. The referred group is that of the nuclear family, which the individual lives and grows up with. It is believed that these interactions formulate the individuals understanding of societal norms and values. It is then assumed that if the individual is capable of learning what is acceptable in society, they are also not capable of learning what is considered unacceptable.

Criminal behavior is learned in interaction with others in a process of communication. From the moment an individual is born they are being conditioned to the norms of society. They learn gender roles through their interactions with their parents and observations of gender specific characteristics. Interaction and observations are the same methods of communication through which criminals learn their deviance. Criminal behavior, Differential Association theory argues, is more prevalent in individuals who associate and interact with individuals who exhibit criminal mind sets and behaviors.

Learning criminal behavior occurs within primary groups (family, friends, peers, their most intimate, personal companions). An individuals' behavior is primarily influenced by their family, since that is the first group interaction they receive. Additionally, an individual's behavior is influenced by their peer group (through direct and indirect interaction) and through their intimate relationships with other individuals.

An important quality of differential association theory is the frequency and intensity of interaction. The amount of time that a person is exposed to particular definition and at what point the interaction began are both crucial for explaining criminal activity. The process of learning criminal behavior is really not any different from the process involved in learning any other type of behavior.

### **Nine Propositions of Differential Association Theory**

Sutherland's theory doesn't account for why an individual becomes a criminal but how it happens. He summarized the principles of differential association theory with nine propositions:

1. All criminal behavior is learned.
2. Criminal behavior is learned through interactions with others via a process of communication.
3. Most learning about criminal behavior happens in intimate personal groups and relationships.
4. The process of learning criminal behavior may include learning about techniques to carry out the behavior as well as the motives and rationalizations that would justify criminal activity and the attitudes necessary to orient an individual towards such activity.

5. The direction of motives and drives towards criminal behavior is learned through the interpretation of legal codes in one's geographical area as favorable or unfavorable.
6. When the numbers of favorable interpretations that support violating the law outweigh the unfavorable interpretations that don't, an individual will choose to become a criminal.
7. All differential associations aren't equal. They can vary in frequency, intensity, priority, and duration.
8. The process of learning criminal behaviors through interactions with others relies on the same mechanisms that are used in learning about any other behavior.
9. Criminal behavior could be an expression of generalized needs and values, but they don't explain the behavior because non-criminal behavior expresses the same needs and values.

### **Empirical Review**

Bashar, FauziyaIsiya, Ibrahim, and Abubakar (2019) carried out a descriptive study on influence of drug Abuse on students' academic performance in senior secondary schools in Department of Adult and Non-Formal Education, Shehu Shagariin Sokoto south local government. Specifically, the study sought to establish the effects of the drugs as a contributing factor to poor performance by students in Sokoto south, secondary schools. Substance use among senior secondary school students predicts substance related problems in later life. The target population was 5259 respondents consisting of 10 secondary schools. The sample size was 391 respondents, made up of 3 secondary schools. The data was collected by use of questionnaires. Data analysis was done using descriptive statistics after data cleaning and coding. Quantitative data was analyzed using frequency and percentages. Results of data analysis were presented using frequency distribution tables. The study established that more students were able to access drugs and more are at risk of being influenced to start using drugs. The study therefore recommends for stricter measures on addressing the supply and use of drugs, and also to provide more funds to fight and assist students who are addicts and increase the number of students who graduate as well as increase quality of education. The findings of this study should stimulate continuous debate on drug abuse in secondary schools and also provide valuable insights that the government, stakeholders, scholars and researchers can rely on their collective endeavor of addressing the challenges and making the fight against drug abuse initiative a success. The study findings hoped to provides a guidance upon which recommendations are made. It is expected that this study will lead to a better understanding to the major contributors to student's academic performance. A Drug is any product other than food or water that affects the way people feel, think, see, and behave. It is a substance that due to its chemical nature affects physical, mental and emotional functioning. It can enter the body through chewing, inhaling, smoking, drinking or rubbing on their skin.

Amadi and Akpelu (2018) this is a survey study to examined the effects of drug abuse on the academic performance of secondary school students in Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers State. A sample of 300 respondents from five public secondary schools in Emohua Local Government Area participated in the study. Three research questions guided the work. The findings of the study revealed that: students commonly months drugs such as alcohol and hot drinks, tobacco, Indian hemp, marijuana; peer group influence contributed to abuse of drugs by students and students who months drugs recorded poor academic performance.

Based on the findings, it was recommended among others that students should be educated and enlightened about the dangers of drug abuse.

Samuel, George, Suleiman, Olokoba, and Ogbonna (2021), carried out across-sectional descriptive design on a Drugs abuse, civic behaviour and students' academic performance: perspectives of senior secondary schools in zaria education zone, kaduna state, nigeria consequence of rapid social change and the resultant breakdown of traditional social structures, illegal use of drugs have spread across the globe without exception of Nigeria. Five Senior Secondary Schools were selected. Using Research advisor (2006) Sampling table, 365 respondents were sampled using stratified random sampling technique out of 3812 students. Standardized questionnaire structured by Afuwai in 2016 was adapted. Data from the pilot study was analyzed using Cronbach's alpha and reliability indexes of 804 and .813 were obtained. This is to determine the internal consistency of the responses to the items. Statistics were presented in mean and standard deviation and a three point-scale was used. Hypothesis was tested using independent sample t-test at .05 level of significance. Results: The study revealed that students under the influence of drugs can: fight a teacher, sneak out of school and break school regulations, take part in fight where a group of their friends were against another group, damages school properties on purpose, got into problem with the police for something they did. The study showed that students who abuse drugs are often below average student in their respective classes. To buttress this, the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant influence of drug abuse on the academic performance of senior secondary schools student was rejected (p-value of 0.03 is less than 0.05 level of significance). Conclusion: Drugs abuse has an influence on both students' civic behavior and academic performances.

Amongin (2017) in his study examined the effects of drug abuse on academic performance. The study was conducted in selected senior secondary schools in Ngora Town Council, Ngora district, Eastern Uganda. The objectives of the study were; To find out the different causes perpetuations of drug abuse among students of the Ngora Girls and Ngora Parents Senior Secondary Schools; To identify the different forms of drugs months by students of Ngora Girls and Ngora Parents Senior Secondary Schools; To assess the impacts of drug abuse on academic performance of the students in Ngora Girls and Ngora Parents Senior Secondary Schools and to suggest the possible strategies of curbing drug abuse among students of Ngora Girls and Ngora Parents Senior Secondary Schools. The researcher employed the some discussions from the different authors, publications, magazines and all the other possible sources as the basic foundation of the research. The researcher employed the simple random sampling technique during the research when she selected the sample size of the research and here she employed both the qualitative and quantitative method of data collection. The findings indicated that both male and female were respondents with the percentage of 100 this is true because Ngora Girls and Ngora Parents Senior Secondary schools were both interviewed. It also showered that the sampled size had the majority of the respondents with age brackets of 16-19 year and of course the students. From the study, it is clear that there is great demand for avoidance of drug abuse so as to save most families from break up, poverty levels, child negligence, and child school dropout. Increases chronicle diseases, leads to early marriage, low levels of education, high school drop outs, increased death rates, increased rate of ignorance, family neglect, poverty, family breakdown. In conclusion, although the problem of drugs may seem impossible to eliminate, there are

concrete steps that can be abused to weaken the hold of drugs on society. The danger from drugs is too great to ignore for us and our children.

Abikwi (2022) carried out study to determine the effect of drug abuse on the academic performance of undergraduate students in Edo state. Two research questions and two hypotheses were raised to guide the study. The study adopted descriptive survey research design. The population of the study was made of 9,805 final year undergraduate students from seven universities in Edo State. The findings of the study revealed that the causes of drug abuse among undergraduate students are psychological, social and biological; and these have effect on students' academic performance. The study recommended among other things that Government should make drug education compulsory at all levels of the educational system as this will reduce the ignorance level of what essentially constitute drug abuse and the likely causes and effects of it among undergraduate students.

Nshekenabo(2018). The aim of this study was designed to assess the impact of Drug abuse on students' academic performance among secondary schools in Temeke Municipality. Specific objectives for this study were to: Investigate the causes of drug abuse among secondary school students in Temeke Municipality; assess the Challenges faced in controlling drug abuse in secondary schools and examine the impact of drug abuse on students'academic performance in secondary school in Temeke Municipality. The findings show that: causes of student engaged in the drug are: peer group pressure, Cheap and easy accessibility to drugs, and Imitation. Also the study revealed that the use of drug abuse among students leads to: mental disability, lack of concentration, violence, and health problem. The findings further revealed that the major impacts to student's drug abuse are: Poor Academic performance, increase rate of school dropout and increase rate of truancy. Following these findings, the study recommends that the government needs to build hostels for public schools so as to allow students to stay at schools to avoid persuasion.

Moritz, Leonard and Antonia (2022) the education stakeholders in Germany acknowledge that alcohol and drug abuse among students are significant barriers to achieving academic goals. Alcohol and drug abuse are also related to an increase in other risky actions such as early sexual conduct, drunk driving, physical violence and truancy. Drug abuse in schools, particularly illicit drugs in high school, has long been a topic of concern. Thus, the study sought to examine the impact of drug abuse on the performance of college students in Germany. The study was literature-based and the inferences were based on the verdicts from the prior studies. The study results showed that drug abuse has a negative impact on performance. Drugs and alcohol are some of the most detrimental yet most common disruptions in teenage brain development. They manipulate the brain's wiring and affect how it processes and retains information, including how a teen thinks, focuses, learns, remembers, and concentrates inside and outside school. Drugs can impair teens' cognitive development and affect students' performance in school: reduce their ability to memorize things, poor concentration in the classroom and deficiency of prioritization of assignments. The study recommended that secondary school administrators develop a well-integrated learner surveillance system throughout school environments.

Ojugo, Augustine and Ojeli (2017) carried out descriptive on the influence of drug abuse on school attendance among senior secondary school students in Uromi metropolis. One research question and hypothesis was raised and formulated respectively to guide the study. Descriptive based on survey method was used as the research design of the study. Research

participants were 589 public senior secondary school students drawn by simple random sampled technique from a population of eleven thousand, seven hundred and seventy (11,770) student in Uromi metropolis. The instruments used include a School Attendance Checklist (SAC) and an adapted questionnaire titled: Drug Abuse Screening Test Questionnaire (DASTQ) with a reliability alpha ( $\alpha$ ) of 0.86. Percentages and t-test statistical analysis were used to analyse the research question and test the hypothesis respectively at 0.05 alpha level. The result showed that there is no significant difference between victims and non-victims of drug abuse on their school attendance ( $p>0.05$ ). The study recommended that continued collaboration between the school and family should be intensified through Parents Teacher Association (PTA) meetings to sustain the support needed by children to grow into well-adjusted individuals.

## **Research Methodology**

### **Research Design**

A descriptive survey design was used to determine influence of drug abuse on academic performance among senior secondary school students in Oshiri development center. According to Nageswara (2020) a descriptive study is one in which information is collected without changing the environment (i.e. nothing is manipulated). It is used to obtain information concerning the current status of the phenomena to describe "what exist" with respect to variables or conditions in a situation. The design was considered appropriate for the study because no experiment was carried out but questionnaire was rather used as a tool to collect data from the respondents.

### **Area of Study**

The study was conducted in two secondary school in Oshiri development centre, Oshiri is in Onicha local Government Area of Ebonyi state of Nigeria, it has boundary with the following community the schools is located one at Ugwu ward and one at Ogudu Okwor ward all in Oshiri development centre. Ebonyi State (Igbo: Òra Ebonyi) is a state in the South-East geopolitical zone of Nigeria, bordered to the north and northeast by Benue State, Enugu State to the west, Cross River State to the east and southeast, and Abia State to the southwest. Named for the Abonyi (Aboine) River—a large part of which is in the state's south—Ebonyi State was formed from parts of Abia and Enugu state in 1996 and has its capital as Abakaliki. The land mass of **5,533km<sup>2</sup>(2,136sq mi)**

Ebonyi is the 33rd largest in area and 29th most populous with an estimated population of nearly 2.9 million as of 2016. Geographically, the state is divided between the Cross–Niger transition forests in the far south and the drier Guinean forest–savanna mosaic in the rest of the state. The other important geographical features are the Cross River and its tributary, the River Aloma, which flow along Ebonyi's southeastern and eastern borders, respectively; while fellow Cross River tributaries, the Abonyi (Aboine), Asu, and Eze Aku rivers run through the state's interior.

It has 13 local government area and two geo-political zones. Economically, Ebonyi State is based around agriculture, mainly of yams, rice, oil palm, and cassava crops. A key minor industry is mining due to lead, zinc, and limestone deposits around Abakaliki, and locally hand-made baskets of various sizes at Ntezi. Ebonyi has the joint-twentieth highest Human Development Index in the country and numerous institutions of tertiary education.

## Target Population

The target population of the study consists of 200 students of senior class in the two (2) government secondary schools in Oshiri Development centre obtained from school register.

**Table 1.**

S/N	NAME OF SCHOOL	SSSI	SSS2	SSS3
1	COMPREHENSIVE SECONDARY SCHOOL OSHIRI	50	30	50
2	OSHIRI COMMUNNITY SECONDARY SCHOOL	20	30	20
	<b>TOTAL</b>	70	60	70
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>200</b>		

Total population = 200 students

## Sample Size

Sample size was determined using Taro Yamane method. The Taro Yamane method for sample size calculation was formulated by the statistician Taro Yamane in 1973 to determine the sample size from a given population. Below is the mathematical illustration for the taro Yamane method:

$$n = \frac{n}{(1+n(e)^2)}$$

Where:

n = sample size

N = population under study

e = margin error (%)(0.05)

The sample of this research was calculated using this method with 95% confidence level using 200 students.

Substituted numbers in formula:

$$n = \frac{200}{(1+200(0.05)^2)}$$

n = 133

Sample size therefore is 133 student nurses.

## Sampling Technique

Simple random sampling was used to select the participants for the study. This technique will allow for fair representation of the population whereby every member of the department will

have equal chance of being selected. The selection will be done by picking a paper from a box where “YES” or “NO” will be written and folded and shaken. Those who picked “YES” were selected while those who picked “NO” were not be selected as participants.

The following criteria guided the inclusion of respondents.

- (a) One school from Ebia ward and the other from Ugwu ward.
- (b) The students must have attended school at list second term and is willing to participate

### **Instrument for the Data Collection**

The instrument that was used for data collection was questionnaire. The questionnaire had four sections: Section A comprises of the personal data of the respondent; Section B consists of influence of drug abuse on academic performance among students of senior secondary school oshiri. The reliability coefficient of the instrument was 0.80. The reliability of the instrument was determined by conducting a pilot test, using 10% of the sample size who were not part of the study. The pilot test was carried out at the School Post Basic Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing Federal Neuropsychiatric Hospital Enugu. It was done to ascertain the understanding of the questionnaire, to check for ambiguity, to make amendment where necessary and to ensure that the instrument could measure what it was meant to measure.

### **Method of Data Collection**

A letter of introduction will be obtained from the Principal, School of Post Basic Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing. Ethical Permission for Research will be obtained from the Health Research Ethics Committee of the Federal Neuropsychiatric Hospital, Enugu. These will be presented to the Head of the principal of both secondary schools in order to obtain permission to administer questionnaire to the respondents. Oral consent will also be obtained from the respondents.

### **Data Analysis**

#### **Section A: Demographic Data**

**Table 2: social demographic data respondent n= 115**

<b>S/N</b>	<b>Question</b>	<b>Option</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1.	Age	10-15	40	34.9%
		16-21	60	52.2%
		22-27	15	13%
		Others	0	0%
2.	Sex	Male	60	52.2%
		Female	55	47.8%
3.	Religion	Christian	113	98.2%
		Muslim	1	0.9%
		Traditional	1	0.9%
		Others		
4.	Ethnics	Igbo	111	96.5%
		Hausa	2	1.7%
		Yoruba	2	1.7%



The table above shows that out of 115 respondents 60(52.2%) between the ages of 16-21, 40(34.9%) fell within the age bracket of 10-15 and 15 (13%) are within the age of 22-27. 60 (52.2%) were males while the remaining 55 (47.8%) were females.113 (98.2%) were Christians, while 1 (0.9%) was Muslim and 1 (0.9%) was traditional. 111 (96.5%) were from Igbo, 2 (1.7%) were from Hausa, and 2 (1.7%) were from Yoruba.

### Section B:

**Table 3. Respondents Responses On Questions in Section B**

S/N	Question	Option	Frequency	Percentage
a.	Have you ever months drugs?	Yes	55	47.8%
		No	60	52.2%
b.	If yes what types of drugs have you ever months?	Opium (marijuana)	40	34.8%
		Alcohol	50	47.8%
		Tramadol	20	17.4%
		Others	25	21.7%
c.	If yes how long did you months the drugs?	1-2	80	69.6%
		2-3	15	13%
		3-4	15	13%
		More than 4	5	4.4%

The table above shows out of 115respondents 60 (52.2%) said to have months drugs, while 55 (47.8%) said to have not months drugs.

50(47.8%) abused alcohol, 40 (34.8%) abused opium (marijuana), 25 (21%) abused others while 20(17%) abused tramadol.

80 (69.6%) said to have abused 1-2 months, 15 (13%) said to have abused it 2-3 months, 15 (13%) said to have abused it 3-4 months while 5 (4.4%) said to have abused it more 4 months

### Section C:

Research Question 1: what are the influences of drug abuse on academic performance on senior secondary school students in oshiri development Center.

**Table 3:** was used to answer research question one (1)

S/N	ITEMS	SA 4	A 3	D 2	SD 1	Ex	X	DECISION RULE
1.	Drugs abuse motivates students reasoning	10 40	40 120	50 100	15 15	115 275	2.39	Disagree
2.	Drug abuse decrease students focus in the class.	90 360	20 60	10 20	5 5		3.87	Agree
3.	Drug abuse decrease the cognitive ability of the students and increase forgetfulness	82 328	20 60	10 20	3 3	115 411	3.57	Agree

4.	Drug abuse increase students retentive memory in the class	20 80	25 75	50 100	20 20	115 275	2.39	Disagree
5.	Drug abuse causes students to be depressed with their academic activities.	90 360	20 60	3 6	2 2	115 428	3.72	Agree
	Grand mean						3.18	Agree

Table Three shows that item 1 and 4 has mean score below the mean decision rule 2.5 while the remaining items have mean scores above the decision rule. This implies that the respondents considered that drug abuse has a negative influence on the academic performance of secondary school students but disagree with the item that says that it is beneficial to secondary school students.

**Research question 2:** what are the major reasons why senior secondary school students of in oshiri development Center engage in drug abuse?

Table 4: was used to answer research question two (2)

S/N	ITEMS	SA 4	A 3	D 2	SD 1	Ex	X	DECISION RULE
1.	Academic problem is the reason why student engage in drug abuse.	50 200	50 150	10 20	5 5	115 375	3.26	Agree
2.	To become high and fit into the group is the major reason why students abuse drug.	60 240	40 120	10 20	5 5	115 385	3.35	Agree
3.	Drug habits of student is attributed with their parents' habits	68 272	32 96	10 20	5 5	115 393	3.42	Agree
4.	Students associating with their peer group influence them to engage in drug abuse.	62 248	34 102	11 22	8 8	115 380	3.30	Agree
5.	Students involved in drug abuse they went to gain fame.	80 320	20 60	10 20	5 5	115 405	3.52	Agree
	Grand mean						3.37	Agree

Table 4 (four) shows that item 1 – 5 have a mean score that are above the decision rule of 2.5 which was regarded as acceptable limit as indicated by the researcher. Therefore, all items under the reason why secondary school students engage in drug abuse were considered accepted by the respondents as the major reasons why secondary school students engage in drug abuse.

**Research Question 3** What are the measures that can be used to eradicate drug abuse among comprehensive secondary school students oshiri?

**Table 5:** was to answer research question three (3)

S/N	ITEMS	SA 4	A 3	D 2	SD 1	Ex	X	DECISION RULE
1.	Creation of awareness early in schools help to stop the issue of drug abuse among senior secondary school student in oshiri development center	70 280	30 90	10 20	5 5	115 395	3.43	Agree
2.	Capital punishment to the affecters is the best measure for eradicating drug abuse among students.	60 240	30 90	10 20	15 15	115 365	3.17	Agree
3.	Preventive programmes for senior secondary students help in strengthening of the personal commitment against drug abuse.	68 272	32 96	8 16	7 7	115 391	3.40	Agree
4.	Expulsion is the best way of eradicating the issue of drug abuse among students.	5 20	10 30	60 120	40 40	115 210	1.83	Disagree
5.	Counseling is the best way in which drug abuse could be reduced among senior secondary school students	60 240	40 120	10 20	5 5	115 385	3.35	Agree
	Grand mean						3.14	Agree

The result presented in table 5 (five) shows that item 4 has mean score above the mean decision rule 2.5 while the remaining item has mean score below the decision rule. This implies that the respondents considered that adequate measurers of eradicating drug abuse among secondary school students is through counseling, creation of preventive measures, and creations of awareness. They disagreed with items that suggest that expulsion of students who engage in drug abuse.

### Discussion of Findings

This chapter dealt with discussion of findings from the study. They were discussed under the following headings: highlights of findings, relationship with other studies, implications of the study to nursing, limitations of the study, summary, conclusion, recommendations and suggestions for further studies.

**Objectives One:** To Identify the influence of drug abuse on the academic performance of senior secondary school students in Oshiri Development center

Table Two (2) shows that item 1 and 4 has mean score below the mean decision rule 2.5 while the remaining items have mean scores above the decision rule. This implies that the respondents considered that drug abuse has a negative influence on the academic performance of secondary school students but disagree with the item that says that it is beneficial to secondary school students.

The researcher discovered that drug abuse has a negative influence on the academic performance of secondary school students, by decreasing students focuse in class and causes students to be depress with their academic activities

This agreed with Amadi and Akpelu (2018) who carried a survey study to examine the effects of drug abuse on the academic performance of secondary school students in Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers state. He stated that students months drugs recorded poor academic performance.

The find is also in line with the study carried out by Nshekenabo (2018), on the impact of Drug abuse on students'academic performance among secondary schools in Temeke Municipality. The findings show that: causes of student engaged in the drug are: peer group pressure, Cheap and easy accessibility to drugs, and Imitation. Also the study revealed that the use of drug abuse among students leads to: mental disability, lack of concentration, violence, and health problem. The findings further revealed that the major impacts to student's drug abuse are: Poor Academic performance, increase rate of school dropout and increase rate of truancy.

**Objectives Two:** To determine the reasons why drugs are being months by senior secondary school students in Oshiri Development center.

This research question reveals that the respondents agreed that the major reason why student engage in drug abuse is because of academic problem, to become high and fit into the group, drug habit of their parents, students association with their peer group and because they want to gain power. This is seen as the mean score that are above the decision rule of 2.5 which was regarded as acceptable limit as indicated by the researcher. Therefore, all items under the reason why secondary school students engage in drug abuse were considered accepted by the respondents as the major reasons why secondary school students engage in drug abuse. The researcher found out that students engage in drug abuse because of academics problems, to get high and fit into the group, parents habits towards drugs, and because they want to gain power

This agreed with the study carried out by Nshekenabo (2018), on the impact of Drug abuse on students'academic performance among secondary schools in Temeke Municipality. The findings show that causes of students engaged in the drug are: peer group pressure, Cheap and easy accessibility to drugs, and Imitation.

Furthermore this also agreed with the study carried out by Amadi and Akpelu (2018) this is a survey study to examined the effects of drug abuse on the academic performance of secondary school students in Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers State. The findings of the study revealed that: students commonly months drugs such as alcohol and hot drinks, tobacco, Indian hemp, marijuana; peer group influence contributed to abuse of drugs by students.

**Objectives Three:** To Find out strategies to eradicating the problems of drug among senior secondary school students in Oshiri Development center.

The respondents considered that adequate measure of eradicating drug abuse among secondary school students is through counseling, creation of preventive measures, and creations of awareness. They disagreed with items that suggest that imprisonment and expulsion of students who engage in drug abuse. it reveals that the adequate measurers of eradicating drug abuse among secondary school students is through counseling, creation of preventive measures and creations of awareness. Therefore the school management and community leaders should develop a plan for the prevention resources available for future use. This was clearly written in table five where we have hundred respondents with a grand mean of 3.14. This showed that drug abuse can be eradicated through adequate counseling and preventive measures among secondary school students of Nigeria.

This agreed with study carried out by Abikwi (2022), to determine the effect of drug abuse on the academic performance of undergraduate students in Edo state. In his study he recommended among other things that Government should make drug education compulsory at all levels of the educational system as this will reduce the ignorance level of what essentially constitute drug abuse and the likely causes and effects of it among undergraduate students.

Furthermore this also agreed with the study carried out by Amadi and Akpelu (2018) on survey study to examined the effects of drug abuse on the academic performance of secondary school students in Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers State. Based on the findings, it was recommended among others that students should be educated and enlightened about the dangers of drug abuse.

### **Implication of the Study**

Findings reveals that drug abuse creates serious negative influences on the academic performance of secondary school students as it causes the students to be performing poorly in their academics by decreasing students focus and attention on their studies, cause students to be depressed with their academic activities and decreases the retentive memory of the students. Therefore schools should create a health social environment which would discourage drug abuse, with the schools educating secondary school students should formulate policies to prevent drug abuse and should also hold seminars for parents and families to alert them early on the symptoms of drug abuse in their children.

moreover, it was revealed from the findings in table four (4) that students engage in drug abuse because of academics problems, to get high and fit into the group, parents habit towards drugs, and because they want to gain fame. Therefore they should be kept busy realizing their potentials in rewarding and interesting manner, Furthermore, greater availability of good educational activities, material and leadership opportunities for youths are necessary to keep the students happily busy.

Finally, the Findings of the study in table five (5) also reveal that the adequate measures of eradicating drug abuse among secondary school students is through counseling, creation of awareness and preventive measures. Therefore the school management and community leaders should develop plans for the prevention of drug abuse.

The study equally implies the need for incorporating the drug agencies in the process of combating the social disintegrations by way of public awareness and education.

The research was carried out to determine the influence of drug abuse among senior secondary school student in Oshiri development center Ebonyi state. The study was a descriptive study, the objectives of the study were set and research questions were formulated in relation to the study. Literatures were reviewed in the relevance topics and data were collected using a well structured questionnaire which was administered to 115 respondents who were students of both oshiri community secondary school and comprehensive secondary school Oshiri. Convenience sampling technique and purposive sampling methods were used to determine the sample size. Data was analyzed using frequency table.

Table Three shows that item 1 and 4 has mean score below the mean decision rule 2.5 while the remaining items have mean scores above the decision rule. This implies that the

respondents considered that drug abuse has a negative influence on the academic performance of secondary school students but disagree with the item that says that it is beneficial to secondary school students.

Table 4 (four) shows that item 1 – 5 have a mean score that are above the decision rule of 2.5 which was regarded as acceptable limit as indicated by the researcher. Therefore, all items under the reason why secondary school students engage in drug abuse were considered accepted by the respondents as the major reasons why secondary school students engage in drug abuse.

The result presented in table 5 (five) shows that item 4 has mean score above the mean decision rule 2.5 while the remaining item has mean score below the decision rule. This implies that the respondents considered that adequate measures of eradicating drug abuse among secondary school students is through counseling, creation of preventive measures, and creations of awareness. They disagreed with items that suggest that expulsion of students who engage in drug abuse.

### **Summary of the Finding**

This study was a descriptive survey design carried out to access the influence of drug abuse on academic performance among secondary school students in Oshiri development Centre Onicha Local Government Area Ebonyi state. The objectives of the study were set and research questions were formulated in relation to the study. Literatures were reviewed and data were collected using questionnaire which was administered to 115 respondents who were students of comprehensive secondary school and community secondary school. Simple random sampling technique was used to determine the sample size. Data was analyzed using frequency table, percentage. The findings reviewed that students engage in drug abuse because of academics problems, to get high and fit into the group, parents habits towards drugs, and because they want to gain power. The researcher recommends that drug abuse can be eradicated through adequate counseling and preventive measures among secondary school students of Nigeria. And therefore call on government, drug law enforcement agency, organizations and families to help in implementing the recommendation made by the researcher.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the findings of the study and the discussion, the researcher makes the following conclusions. Drug abuse is a social problem basically associated with young people. These young people involve themselves in taking hard drugs and excessive taking of some drugs which may alter the body system or may cause damage to the health. Drug abuse is very common among secondary school students, they take drugs, to get intoxicated or feel high or for them to just feel among or fit into the environment while some take this drugs through the influence of friends or other people around them. Drug is mostly months by male students than female.

### **Limitation of the study**

The researcher was confronted with a number of obstacles during the course of this study. Some of these limitations are discussed below: Most of the students were very reluctant to fill the questionnaire as they felt it is a waste of time and disturbance to their leisure time. There was the problem of inadequate fund to transport the researcher from his school to the places where information could be obtained which was in different state. Therefore, inadequate

finance restricted the researcher from obtaining certain necessary materials for the investigation. Thus, for a successful research work, money is a motivator. It was practically difficult on the researcher to get accurate statistical data since there were different levels of students from the selected secondary schools in Oshiri Development center. Time constrain was also a challenge, because the study must be concluded with a specified period.

### **Recommendation:**

The problem of drug abuse among Nigeria secondary school students as the study has revealed is a serious matter, one thing that does nobody or any nation any good. The question that arises is what then can be done to this thorny issue of drug use and abuse among our students. Considering the findings from the study, the researcher makes the following recommendation that might be of help to policy maker's administrators in this very fight against use and abuse of drugs among secondary school students.

**Designing Curriculum on Drug Education:** Ministry of education (Federal and State) should as a matter of urgency, add to the curriculum drug education at all levels of education.

**Campaign against Drug Abuse:** National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) should intensify their campaigns on antidrug in order to have a drug free society. The campaign against use of certain substance/drugs and misuse of drugs should be more intensified in secondary school because it is where adolescent are mostly found and most of drug abuse starts there. Also, government and other relevant authorities should lunch out campaigns against drug abuse as well as dependence.

Government should prevent the cultivation/sales of Indian Herm and other deadly herbs that encourage drug abuse by enforcing its existing laws against drug abuse through its regulatory agencies.

Parents and guardians should Endeavour to monitor their children and wards so that they do not engage in substance/drug abuse.

**Establishment of Counseling Centers for Drug Control:** Counseling centers should be established in every community by the government or private individuals. Qualified health counselor should be employed in helping drug addicts or those dependent on substances/drugs by giving them special advice on how to go about the withdrawal system.

**Establishment of Family Education on Drugs:** The family is the nucleus of the social organization. Parents should give their children appropriate education on drug use. They should be encouraged by health authorities to offer family education on substance/drug abuse to their children. They should inform them of the dangers of substance/drug abuse and dependence on their health, society and the nation.

### **Suggestion for further Studies**

In view of the wide scope of this study, the findings of the study, limitations, the researcher therefore wishes to suggest the following areas worthy of further investigations.

The consequences of Drug Abuse in Nigeria

The effects of Drug Abuse student's academic achievement

The major causes of Drug Abuse among Nigeria secondary school students.

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